Violence and cheating with foreign tourists

†2990.SHRI P.K.MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign Tourists who visited India during the last three years;

(b) the number of incidents of violence and cheating that have occurred with foreign tourists during these years; and

(c) the States where these incidents happened and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Tourist arrivals during the year 2000 and 2001 and 2002 are 2.65 million, 2.54 million and 2.36 million respectively. However, during October 2002 - July 2003, the growth rate of arrival has been 13.4%.

(b) During the last three years 89 complaints were received which are detailed below:

Year	No. of Complaints received
2000	28
2001	25
2002	36

(c) These incidents mainly happened in the States where foreign tourists visit like National Capital Territory of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Goa, Himachal Pradesh etc. The complaints are forwarded to the various agencies including the police for investigation and redressal which includes legal action wheresoever requried. Till December 2002 81 cases were settled.

Popularity for sea travel

2991.SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sea travel is becoming increasingly popular among tourists, both domestic and overseas; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to identify and develop spots suitable for pleasure trips on sea by tourists togetherwith the details of potential areas in each State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) International tourism trends indicate that sea travel is becoming increasingly popular and that there is enormous potential for its growth and expansion.

(b) The Ministry of Shipping, Govt, of India has constituted a Committee to explore the potential of cruise tourism and develop related infrastructure in the major ports on the western coast. Committees at the port level have also been constituted in the major ports of Mumbai/Marmagoa/new Mangalore/Kochi and Tuticorin for identification and implementation of related work. A separate Committee has been constituted under the Chairperson, Mumbai Port Trust to review rules and regulations concerning cruise vessels/tourists.

Setting up of multi-purpose cultural complex in Orissa

2992. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up; multi purpose cultural complex all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such complexes to be set up in Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure time-bound execution of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Under the existing ongoing scheme called 'Setting up of Multi-purpose Cultural Complexes in the States including those for Children' Government has funded these projects in 16 states. The Central and State Governments contribute funds on a matching basis under this scheme depending upon availability of funds, and the State Government provides land free of cost for the purpose.

A sum of Rs. 25 lakhs has been released for setting up a Multi-purpose Cultural Complex in Bhubaneshwar at an estimated cost of Rs. 2 crores.